



Ninety-Eighth Legislature - First Session - 2003
Introducer's Statement of Intent
LB 263

Chairperson: Ron Raikes
Committee: Education
Date of Hearing: February 10, 2003

The following constitutes the reasons for this bill and the purposes which are sought to be accomplished thereby:

Legislative Bill 263 would amend section 79-1028 by allowing additional budget authority for new and expanded full-day kindergarten programs. Existing provisions would also be updated.

Class II, III, IV, V, and VI districts would be allowed to exceed their allowable growth rate by a specific dollar amount for the implementation of new full-day kindergarten programs or the expansion of existing full-day kindergarten programs. Districts would be required to project the number of students who will participate in the programs on forms prescribed by the department. The department would be required to approve, deny, or modify the projected increases. The amount of the additional budget authority would equal the allowable budget per pupil multiplied by 50% of the number of projected students.

The deadline for the Department of Education to provide documents to recalculate actual formula students would be moved from February 1 to July 1. The new deadline would also apply to the provision of documents to recalculate actual full-day kindergarten membership.

The number of students participating in expanded full-day kindergarten programs would not include students participating in any portion of full-day kindergarten programs that existed in a prior school year.

For the current growth rate exception based on increased building operation and maintenance costs, the department would modify the local system's recovery and adjustments to the allowable growth for the ensuing school year based on the actual increased costs for the school year, instead of modifying the local system's applicable allowable growth rate.

Principal Introducer:

Senator Ron Raikes